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for amateur theatre

#17 Topical Tip

Highlighting the incorrect use of NODA's registered charity number

Many of our member societies put on fundraising events to raise extra money for upcoming shows or to cover other costs, and this is something that NODA actively encourages. Fundraising is often essential to ensure the financial stability of societies.

However, it has recently come to light that a small number of societies have been using NODA's registered charity number on their fundraising literature. Member societies do not need to be registered as a charity in order to fundraise. If a society is not a registered charity, by law they cannot say they are one in order to support fundraising activities.

It is against the law for a NODA society to use NODA's registered charity number under any circumstances – or indeed any other registered charity's number - to support their fundraising.

The Charity Commission advises that all fundraising should be "open and honest" and that the "more transparent you are the more members of the public will trust in what you are doing." When a society uses NODA's registered charity number for fundraising purposes this could mislead the public into believing that the money they are giving is going to NODA, when in fact it is going to the society.

Although we are certain that any mistakes of this kind are made honestly by societies, it is important to know that using NODA's registered charity number for fundraising purposes is not allowed.

For more guidance on this topic, societies should go to the Charity Commission's website:
www.charitycommission.gov.uk/.

If you need any help or advice from NODA, call us on **01733 374 790** or email info@noda.org.uk

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Registered charity number 254640 Registered company number 241572 Registered in England and Wales at the above address

Patron: **The Lord Lloyd Webber**